

As the DPBH Administrator, Richard oversees a public and private network of programs involving mental health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities, as well as, operating the Rawson-Neal (Las Vegas), Dini-Townsend (Reno/Sparks), Psychiatric Hospitals, and Lake's Crossing Center forensic facility.

As Administrator, Richard is directly responsible for promoting and protecting the health of all Nevadans and visitors to the state through proactive leadership in public health initiatives, coupled with enforcement of the public health laws and regulations. The responsibilities also involve aggressive measures, as may be necessary, to prevent the spread of sickness and disease through surveillance, intervention, and education, to include public health preparedness. The Division Administrator also serves as Secretary to the Nevada State Board of Health.

Whitley began state service as the senior psychologist for the Women's Correctional Facility in 1986. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Willamette University, Oregon; and a Master of Science degree in Counseling Psychology, from Western Oregon University.